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Emperor of CAE Visits DPRK

(See related stories on page 2)

His Majesty Bokassa the First, Emperor of Central Africa and Empress paid an official visit to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea from Apr. 28 to May 2 at the invitation of President Kim Il Sung, according to the KCNA report from Pyongyang.

The entourage of His Majesty Emperor consists of Mandaba Bornou, Minister of State, Juridical Councillor of the Imperial Court and President of the Supreme Court; Lamine Theodore Blaise and Simon Bedaya-Ngaro, Ministers of State and Councillors of the Imperial Court; Emmanuel Bongopassi, Councillor of the Imperial Court; Guy-Bruno Marie Darlan, Minister and Economic Councillor to the Emperor; Henr Koba and Gabriel Doyen, Ministers and Councillors of the Imperial Court; Andre Dieudonne Magale, Minister of State in charge of Planning, International Cooperation and Statistics; Michel Gbezera-Bria, Foreign Minister; Jean Pierre Lebouder, Minister of Agriculture, Stockbreeding, Waters, Forests, Fisheries, Hunting and Tourism; Rigobert Yombo, Minister of Energy, Mines and Geology; and others.

A joint communique was signed between the Government of the DPRK and the Government of the Central African Empire.

Also signed were a treaty of friendship and cooperation, a general agreement on economic, scientific-technological and cultural cooperation.

Various functions were arranged to welcome the CAE guests.

During their stay in the DPRK, the CAE guests visited Mangyongdae, Central Industrial Agricultural Exhibition and so on.

President Kim Il Sung firmly shook hands with His Majesty Bokassa the First of the Central African Empire alighting from his plane. (KCNA Radiophoto)

Summit Talks

Silver knives were presented on Apr. 28 to His Majesty Bokassa the First and Empress at the plaza in front of the February 8 House of Culture by Chairman Kang Hui Won of the Pyongyang Municipal Administrative Committee in the name of the Pyongyang citizens.

His Majesty Bokassa the First presented gifts of best wishes to President Kim Il Sung at the Kumsusan Assembly Hall on the same day. The President expressed thanks for them.

His Majesty Bokassa the First and Empress paid a courtesy call on President Kim Il Sung and his wife on the same day.

The President had a conversation with His Majesty Bokassa the First in a cordial and friendly atmosphere and posed for a photograph with His Majesty Emperor and his entourage.

Talks were held on Apr. 28 between President Kim Il Sung and His Majesty Bokassa the First.

Present at the talks were the delegation of the DPRK and the delegation of the CAE.

At the talks views were exchanged on expanding and developing the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries and on a number of problems of common concern. A consensus of views was reached on the problems discussed.

The talks proceeded in a sincere and friendly atmosphere. The talks were also held on Apr. 29 and 30.

Banquet

President Kim Il Sung arranged a grand banquet at the Kumsusan Assembly Hall on the evening of Apr. 28 in honour of His Majesty Bokassa the First.

Invited to the banquet were His Majesty Emperor Bokassa the First and Empress and their entourage.

Present there were Pak Sung Chul and his wife, Kye Ung Tae, Ho Dam, Kim Man Gum, Kong Jin Tae and Hwang Jang Yop and other leading functionaries.

Foreign diplomatic envoys and their wives were also present on invitation.

President Kim Il Sung made a speech at the banquet.

He said, "We will firmly unite with the non-aligned countries to realize the common ideals of the non-aligned movement and render an active support and encouragement to the struggle of all peoples against imperialism, colonialism and dominationism."

His Majesty Bokassa the First made a speech next.

He said, "Nevertheless, under your clairvoyant leadership, not only the Democratic People's Republic of Korea brought a brilliant military victory over shameful colonialism and imperialism but also the great Korean people have transformed the country into a powerful socialist industrial state, independent and prosperous, which is so much praised and which we have come to see."

The banquet proceeded in a warm atmosphere overflowing with friendly sentiments.

An art performance was given by Pyongyang artists at the banquet.

President Kim Il Sung paid a return call on Apr. 29 on His Majesty Bokassa the First.

The President had a talk with His Majesty Bokassa the First in a warm and friendly atmosphere.

President Kim Il Sung and his wife on Apr. 30 arranged a luncheon in honor of His Majesty Bokassa the First and the Empress.

The luncheon passed in an amicable atmosphere overflowing with sentiments of friendship.

The President presented gifts to His Majesty Bokassa the First and the Empress on the same day.

His Majesty Bokassa the First and the Empress expressed deep thanks for them.

His Majesty Bokassa the First and the Empress arranged a grand banquet at the Kumsusan Assembly Hall on the evening of May 1 in honour of President Kim Il Sung and his wife.

His Majesty Bokassa the First made a speech at the banquet.

President Kim Il Sung made a speech next.

The banquet was alive with a warm expression of friendship. An art performance was given at the banquet by artists in Pyongyang.

President Kim Il Sung and his wife were awarded the "Grand Cross of Operation Bokassa," the highest order of the CAE and "Grand Cross of Central African Merit" at the Kumsusan Assembly Hall on May. 1 by His Majesty Bokassa the First.

Orders of the CAE were also awarded to leading functionaries and personages concerned of the DPRK.

An Order of the DPRK was awarded to His Majesty Bokassa the First on the same day at the Kumsusan Assembly Hall.

President Kim Il Sung and his wife were present on the occasion.

Seychellois President Visits DPRK

The government delegation of the Republic of Seychelles headed by His Excellency France Albert Rene, President of the Republic of Seychelles paid an official visit to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea from May 4 to May 7 upon the invitation of President Kim Il Sung, the KCNA reported.

His Excellency President France Albert Rene and his wife were accompanied by James Michel, Minister of State in the President's Office for Administration and Information; David Thomas, personal assistant to the President; and other members of the delegation.

During its stay in the DPRK, various functions were arranged to welcome the Seychellois delegation and they visited Mangyongdae and other places.

Summit Talks

President Rene and madame were presented silver knives at the plaza in front of the February 8 House of Culture by Chairman Kang Hui Won of the Pyongyang Municipal Administrative Committee in the name of the entire Pyongyang citizens on the same day. President Rene expressed deep thanks for the silver knives.

President Rene and his wife paid a courtesy call on the same day on President Kim Il Sung and his wife.

President Kim Il Sung had a conversation with President Rene in a cordial and friendly atmosphere and posed for a photograph with the President Rene and his party.

Talks were held between President Kim Il Sung and President Rene on May. 4.

Present at the talks on the DPRK side were Pak Sung Chul, Ho Dam and Kong Jin Tae; personage concerned Chong Song Nam; and Chang Il Man, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the DPRK to the Republic of Seychelles.

Present on the opposite side were James Michel, Miniser of State in the President's Office for Administration and Information; and David Thomas, personal assistant to the President.

Views were exchanged at the talks on further developing the relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries and a number of questions of mutual concern and a unanimity of views was reached on the problems discussed.

President Kim Il Sung cordially met President Rene of the Republic of Seychelles at the airport. (KCNA Radiophoto)

The talks proceeded in a cordial and friendly atmosphere.

Banquet

President Kim Il Sung arranged a grand banquet on May 4 evening at the Kumsusan Assembly Hall in honour of the government delegation of the Republic of Seychelles.

Invited to the banquet were President Rene and his wife, and members of the delegation and others.

President Kim Il Sung made a speech at the banquet. (See page 2)

He said, "We highly appreciate that under the leadership of their outstanding leader, Your Excellency President France Albert Rene, the Seychellois people are defending the country's sovereignty and gallantly hewing out a road to a new society, while crushing the subversive activities and sabotages of the imperialists and their lackeys and we express full support to and solidarity with their just struggle."

Then President Rene made a speech next. (See page 2)

He said, "The people of Seychelles have followed with great interest the significant achievements of the Korean people in their endeavour to build a strong, self-reliant socialist nation under your wise leadership, in accordance with the Juche idea which you have enunciated... We also share the view that this can only be achieved if all foreign occupation and imperialist forces are withdrawn from Korean soil and the Koreans are allowed to decide their own future without any outside interference."

The banquet proceeded in a cordial atmosphere overflowing with friendly sentiments.

Artists of the Mansudae Art Troupe gave a performance at the banquet.

On May 5 the South Pyongan Provincial People's Committee arranged a banquet in honour of Seychellois government delegation. The banquet proceeded in a cordial atmosphere overflowing with friendship.

The DPRK Government arranged a banquet on May 6 evening in honour of the Seychellois government delegation.

Pak Sung Chul, spoke first at the banquet.

President Rene also made a speech.

The banquet was alive with a warm expression of friendship.

An agreement on economic, scientific-technological and cultural cooperation between the DPRK and the Republic of Seychelles was signed on May 7.

An agreement on cultural cooperation, a trade agreement, an agreement on air services and an accord on economic and technical cooperation between the Governments of the DPRK and the Republic of Seychelles were signed on the same day.

PDRY Party, Gov't Del. Visits Pyongyang

A Party and government delegation of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen headed by Ari Nasser Mohammed, Member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the United National Front Political Organization and Prime Minister, paid an official visit to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea from Apr. 28 to Apr. 30 upon the invitation of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and the Government of the DPRK, the KCNA reported.

Arriving in Pyongyang together with Prime Minister Ali Nasser Mohammed were Haidar Abubakr Al Attas, Member of the Central Committee of the United National Front Political Organisation and Minister of Construction; Mahmood Saeed Medhi, Member of the Central Committee of the United National Front Political Organisation and Minister of Trade and Supply; Dr. Abdulla Ahmed Bukair, Member of the Central Committee of the United National Front Political Organisation and Minister of Health; Saleh Munasser Alsiely, Member of the Central Committee of the United National Front Political Organisation and Permanent Secretary of the Foreign Relations Department of the UNFPO; Ahmed Saleh Hajib, Ambassador of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Shafiq Saleh, Charge d'Affaires ad Interim of the Embassy of the PDR of Yemen in the DPRK; Abubakr Saeed Baabbad, Director of the Asia and Australia Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and other delegation members.

The delegation was met at the airport by Premier Li Jong Ok, Vice-Premier Kye Ung Tae, Vice-Premier Chong Jun Gi and personages concerned and foreign diplomatic envoys in Pyongyang.

Prime Minister Ali Nasser Mohammed made public an arrival statement in connection with the visit of the Party and government delegation of the PDR of Yemen to the DPRK.

In the statement he emphasized that Korea should achieve the independent and peaceful reunification in accordance with the policy put forward by the Government of the DPRK.

The following day, on Apr. 29, President Kim Il Sung met the Party and government delegation of the PDR of Yemen. President Kim Il Sung had a talk with the guests in a cordial and friendly atmosphere.

The Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and the Administration Council of the DPRK arranged a banquet at the People's Palace of Culture in honour of the Party and government delegation of the PDR of Yemen on the same day.

At the banquet Premier Li Jong Ok and Prime Minister Ali Nasser Mohammed made speeches respectively.

In the speeches Premier Li Jong Ok and Prime Minister Ali Nasser Mohammed expressed the militant friendship and cooperation between the two countries.

The banquet passed in a friendly atmosphere.

Talks were held in Pyongyang on Apr. 28 and 29 between the Party and government delegation of the DPRK and the Party and government delegation of the PDR of Yemen.

At the talks the two sides exchanged views on further developing the relations of friendship and cooperation between the two Parties and two countries and a number of questions of mutual concern and reached a unanimity of views on the questions discussed.

Pyongyang Students & Children Art Troupe Flies to Japan

A 134-member delegation of the Pyongyang Students and Children Art Troupe flied into the Tokyo International Airport on May 1 morning for a spring performance at the invitation of the Japan-Korea Cultural Exchange Association, The Asahi Shimbun and the Japan Broadcatsing Corporation (NHK) and, with the cooperation of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongryun.)

Large crowds of over 1,000 Korean and Japanese well-wishers extended enthusiastic welcome to the arrival of the Pyongyang Students and Children Art Troupe headed by Kim U Jong, vice-Chairman of the Korean Society for Cultural Relation with Foreign Countries.

Among them was Chairman Han Duk Su of the CSC of Chongryun accompanied by its vice-Chairmen.

Also present were the workers of Chongryun's central and local headquarters and member organizations.

Present on behalf of the sponsors were Takagi Takeo, President of the Japan-Korea Cultural Exchange Association, Kuno Chuji, Chairman of the Dietmen's League for Promotion Japan-Korea Friendship, Hasegawa Shozo, Member of the Presidium of the Japan Communist Party.

Delegation chief Kim U Jong met newsmen at noon on May 1 at Tokyu Hotel near the airport with all the members of the delegation.

In his speech, Kim emphasized that the first visit to Japan of the troupe will contribute to getting a better Japanese understanding of the Korean students and children and expanding friendship between Korea and Japan.

On May 1 evening, the 134-member Pyongyang art delegation visited Korean Central Hall located in the heart of Tokyo.

On May 2 morning some of the delegates including Kim U Jong called at the office of the Japan-Korea Cultural Exchange Association with welcome of Takagi Takeo, Ichikawa Makoto and personages concerned.

Over 2,300 Japanese, Korean nationals here and foreign diplomats here from 40 countries saw the first performance of the Pyongyang Students and Children Art Troup at Tokyo Bunka Kaikan in Ueno, Tokyo, on May 3 evening.

On the same day, Pyongyang art troupe paid a visit to Asahi Shimbun Company and Tokyo Governor Minobe Ryokichi.

The performance of the troupe is scheduled to be given from May 3 to June 13 in major cities of this country: Tokyo, Nagoya, Kyoto, Osaka, Kobe, Hiroshima, Yamaguchi, Fukuoka and Niigata.

This is the first visit to Japan of the art troupe. The performance is part of the expanding Korea-Japan relations as the international prestige of the DPRK is on the steady rise.

The Pyongyang Students and Children Art Troupe presents a music and dance ensemble in 36 instalments—which is composed of 20 vocal musicians, 35 dancers and 48 instrumental musicians, totalling 103 boys and girls in 8-14 ages.

The Pyongyang Students and Children Art Troupe gave its successful premiere on May 3 evening at the Tokyo Bunka Kaikan before a capacity audience of 2,300 spectators.

Among them were Tokyo Governor Minobe Ryokichi, Chinese Ambassador and many foreign diplomats here from 4o countries.

A colorful, deep-penetrating, graceful and sweet presentation completely charmed and transported the 2,300 spectators, impressing them with "Juche art."

KOREA FOCUS

Reasonable Proposal for N.-S. Confederation

The so-called "tripartite conference" had no sooner been reported than the south Korean authorities rejected it. Their rejection is not due to its form but to its agenda.

The speculated "tripartite conference" is alleged to discuss a north-south confederation.

The best option avaiable under the present circumstances is believed to be institution of a north-south confederation.

The confederation is certainly an idea of the northern side. Its details were set forth at the August 15, 1960 celebration in Pyongyang of the 15 anniversary of Korea's liberation from Japan.

The confederation was proposed as a temporary, transitional step to solve the immediate questions confronting the nation. It is to keep intact the existing political systems in the north and the south, to allow the governments of the DPRK and the ROK to continue their respective functions and to create a Supreme National Council composed of representatives of the two governments to coordinate the economic and cultural development of the north and the south.

The July 4, 1972 north-south joint statement defines the three principles for the reunification of Korea. Its third principle is achieving national unity to transcend ideas, ideals and religion and move toward national reunification. North-south talks were initiated to implement the joint statement but later were suspended.

In this context, the northern side proposed a further detailed confederal system. The proposal calls for a pan-national congress to be held where representatives of various social sectors in the north and the south can participate in an effort to achieve national unity, whereby to institute a north-south confederation permitting the existing systems to function as they do for the time being. The proposal suggests Koryo as the name of the projected confederal state as Koryo refers to a world-famous unified state in Korea. (Koryo is the origin of Korea or Corea.) Korea should join the United Nations as such.

A full thirty three years have elapsed since the division of Korea by foreign powers. During this period, the Korean people underwent a fratricidal war against their will and have been forced to live under two different systems. There is no more urgent matter than bringing this tragic state to an end. The realities of over thirty years are a high, thick wall.

The reunification of the country would unify the systems, ideas and religions in the final analysis. The present state of affairs are not ripe for such reunification. Provisional steps should be taken to achieve national unity among others by keeping the existing systems and ideas as they are.

A "federation" is gaining increasing popular support in south Korea. A "federation" originally advocated by Chon Kwan U, a noted historian and democrat (former editor-in-chief of the south Korean vernacular daily The Tonga Ilbo), is to be created as a north-south federal state and lifted phase by phase to the state of complete reintegration.

In any event, the confederation of the north and the south (or federation) is sure to contribute to the relaxation of tension on the Korean Peninsula and to the peace and security of Asia.

Reunification should never involve annexation of one side by the other nor "defeat of communism" nor "advance north" advocated by the Pak junta. The Pak junta openly argues for elimination of communism as the sworn enemy. At every opportunity Pak Jung Hi demands resumption of north-south talks and free travel between the two parts. His behavior is like saying, "Let's shake hands," while ready to attack and kill. Nobody will welcome him. The "Anti-Communist Law" is in force in south Korea, which punishes any travel to and from the northern half. How can he reconcile his call for free travel between the two parts and his threats to punish it under the law?

A Korean reunification should never be communization or defeating communism. By all acounts, a confederation emerges as the most reasonable option for peaceful reunification of the country.

Speech of President KIM IL SUNG

At Banquet

Esteemed Your Majesty Bokassa the First and Your Majesty Empress,

Dear guests from Central Africa,

Comrades and friends,

Today we have received with great pleasure Your Majesty Bokassa the First, the Emperor of Central Africa, Your Majesty Empress and other guests from Central Africa.

On behalf of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Korean people, I would like first to warmly welcome you, distinguished guests from Central Africa.

Esteemed Your Majesty Emperor have travelled all the way this time east of Asia to visit our country. It shows that in recent years the friendly relations between our two countries have been expanded and developed with each passing day and have entered upon a new phase.

The Korean people and the Central African people were secluded from each other in the days of former colonial rule. However, they have now formed the solid ties of friendship amid the strong current of independence prevailing over the world.

Both Korea and Central Africa are the member states of the non-aligned movement.

The Central African people launched into an independent development of their country after Your Majesty Bokassa the First took the highest post of the state.

You advanced the operational line of mobilizing and utilizing all the country's might and resources on the principle of self-reliance and gained many successes in overcoming poverty and backwardness left by the colonial rule and in reshaping the look of the country.

The Government of Central Africa follows an independent foreign policy based on the non-aligned principle, and opposes imperialism, colonialism and racism.

We warmly congratulate the Central African people on their achievements scored under your leadership in the struggle to defend the country's sovereignty and build the national economy and national culture, and actively support your endeavours to bring about complete liberation and unity of Africa.

Today in southern Africa, a fierce showdown is going on between the two forces: The people aspiring for the complete liberation of Africa on one hand and the imperialists and racists trying hard to maintain their atrocious racist regime on the other hand.

The imperialists, old and new colonialists and racists are resorting to all sorts of machinations, such as armed suppression, split and alienation and fabrication of puppet regimes, in order to maintain colonial domination and racial suppressive system in southern Africa.

With no machination, however, can they check the regeneration of Africa.

The master of Africa is the African people.

Our people actively support and encourage the peoples of Zimbabwe, Namibia and South Africa in their valiant struggle against the cursed colonial oppression, racial discrimination and apartheid and for freedom and liberation, and will always stand firmly on the side of the fraternal African people fighting for the complete liberation and unity of Africa.

We will firmly unite with the non-aligned countries to realize the common ideals of the non-aligned movement and render an active support and encouragement to the struggle of all peoples against imperialism, colonialism and dominationism.

Esteemed Your Majesty Emperor,

Your Majestry's visit to our country this time constitutes support and encouragement to our people in their struggle for the socialist construction and the independent, peaceful reunification of the fatherland.

Only when the peoples of the non-aligned states, newly-emerging countries are firmly united, can they emerge victorious in their common cause of opposing all forms of domination, subjugation and inequality and creating an independent new life.

I am convinced that Your Majesty's visit to our country will make contribution not only to expanding and strengthening friendly cooperation between our two peoples but also to consolidating the solidarity among the peoples of Asia and Africa.

Being greatly touched by Your Majesty who have come all the way to our country carrying with you the trust in us and the feelings of fraternal friendship towards us, I propose a toast:

To the friendship and solidarity between the Korean and Central African peoples,

To the solidarity of the world's people advocating independence,

To the health of Esteemed Your Majesty Bokassa the Frist and Your Majesty Empress,

To the health of the guests from Central Africa,

To the health of diplomatic envoys of various countries and madams, and

To the health of all comrades and friends present here.

(KCNA)

Speech of Emperor BOKASSA

At Banquet

Comrade President Kim Il Sung, the respected and beloved great leader of the Korean people, Comrade Madame President, Excelencies messieurs ambassadors, Comrades and friends,

It is with a great pride mingled with emotion that we are making a speech after your brilliant address.

We were touched by so amicable words which you have addressed to us and to Her Majesty Empress and the delegation of Central Africa. And from the bottom of our heart we wish you to accept the sentiments of profound gratitude which we, in the name of the Central African people and their Great-Renovated National Party, the Movement for the Social Evolution of Black Africa (the mesan), express to you personally and to the valiant Korean people for the remarkable warm welcome accorded to us and our delegation after our arrival in Pyongyang, your beautiful capital.

These words and this welcome are a veritable comfort and they amply justify the option which we made in reserving for the friendly people of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea our first official foreign tour after our investiture as Emperor at the will of the Central African people.

With the same great pride we say that we find ourselves in the land of morning calm where the legendary valiance and devotion of the people united around the respected and beloved great leader are matched at a time with the poetry of the nature for the preservation of their independence, their sovereignty and their national identity.

And you, Comrade President, are the very incarnation of these virtues and these aspirations.

This is why, to a heroic people and to you, the artisan of liberty, the great statesman, we have brought across the oceans and continents, the salute, friendship and solidarity of the Central African people.

In fact, Comrade President, the respected and beloved great leader of the Korean people, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and notably Pyongyang constitute a symbol to us the peoples of the Third World: The symbol of the constant victory of the just causes despite the manoeuvres of imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism for realising their abject design of domination. We once again recall with horror the implacable war which bruised the country, razed towns and created chaos.

Nevertheless, under your clairvoyant leadership, not only the Democratic People's Republic of Korea brought a brilliant military victory over shameful colonialism and imperialism but also the great Korean people have transformed the country into a powerful socialist industrial state, independent and prosperous, which is so much praised and which we have come to see.

This triple victory, military, political and economic, is attributable to the courage and the spirit of sacrifice of the Korean people, on the one hand, and to the concretisation of the imperishable idea of Juche which constitutes the quintessence of your revolutionary ideas, to wit, "one is responsible for one's own destiny and one has also the capacity for hewing out one's own destiny."

This constant and unremitting struggle which you have never ceased is the same as we are engaged in after our accession to power. And we would like to tell you that the Central African people under our leadership have also achieved brilliant victories: The unity and peace reigning in the Empire; the great successes achieved in the economic and social fields, thanks to the Operation Bokassa, the national and original strategy of development, revolutionary hymn to the mobilisation of all the powerful forces of our nation in combating underdevelopment of all forms.

This is the proof, and you have furnished it, Comrade President, that our two countries and our two peoples defend common ideas.

And, it is all the more urgent than ever before for the non-aligned countries including the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Empire of Central Africa to close their ranks in this world where an implacable and underhand struggle sometimes marked by the murderous conflict notably in Africa, opposes the retrograde forces of hegemony and domination.

Your country and ours have laid bases of friendship and cooperation which we wish to be precious, be always more stirring and always more effective.

As you have just said, our presence in your country and the nomination of ambassadors in our respective capitals are a testimony of our common will to expand and develop our relations day by day.

Comrade President,

We know that the political action which you have taken is for the peaceful and independent reunification of your great fatherland, the supreme aspiration of the entire Korean people.

Permit us to recall at the outset of our visit, without equivoque, that the people of Central Africa have always regarded as their own this vital aspiration of the valiant friendly people of Korea.

It is with this faith and confidence in the future of the Central Africa-Korea relations that we invite you to join me in a toast

To the friendship and solidarity between the Korean and Central African peoples,

To the health of Comrade Kim Il Sung, the respected and beloved great leader of the Korean people,

To the health of Comrade Madame President Kim Il Sung,

To the health of their excellencies messieurs ambassadors and their wives, and

To the health of our comrades and friends present here. (KCNA)

Speech of President KIM IL SUNG

At Banquet

Your Excellency Esteemed President France Albert Rene and Madam,

Dear guests from Seychelles,

Comrades and friends,

I am very happy to sit together with Your Excellency France Albert Rene, President of the Seychelles People's United Party and President of the Republic of Seychelles, and other guests from Seychelles in this atmosphere overflowing with friendly sentiments. I warmly welcome you in the name of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Korean people.

Today when we have received the delegates of the Republic of Seychelles who have carried with a fresh stamina of a new-born independent state, we once again keenly realize that the present era is an era of national liberation and a new era of history when the people, once oppressed and humiliated, appear as masters on the world arena.

Seychelles, a beautiful island country in the Indian Ocean, was trampled down under the protracted colonial rule of foreign imperialism.

The brave Seychellois people, however, put an end to the imperialist colonial rule and achieved national independence in 1976 through an energetic anti-imperialist national liberation struggle. Then the Republic of Seychelles has entered the international arena as a full-fledged independent state on a par with big and small countries of the world.

Since the country's independence, especially since last year when the June Revolution emerged victorious under the leadership of Your Excellency President, the Seychellois people as real masters of their country have enjoyed happiness and freedom and spent worthwhile days of creation and transformation.

The Seychelles People's United Party and the Government are heading for socialism, and taking various progressive measures to reform the structure of the national economy, develop agriculture and fishery, solve employment and housing problems for the people and give all children the opportunity of learning and improve the people's livelihood.

We highly appreciate that under the leadership of their outstanding leader, Your Excellency President France Albert Rene, the Seychellois people are defending the country's sovereignty and gallantly hewing out a road to a new society, while crushing the subversive activities and sabotages of the imperialists and their lackeys and we express full support to and solidarity with their just struggle.

In foreign relations the Government of the Republic of Seychelles is pursuing a non-aligned policy, opposing imperialism, colonialism and racism and struggling for the complete liberation and unity of the whole Africa.

At present, one of the vital questions facing the Indian Ocean countries including Seychelles is to clear foreign military bases of the Diego Garcia Island and other regions of the Indian Ocean and turn the Indian Ocean into a peace zone.

The resolution on turning the Indian Ocean into a peace zone has been already adopted at the summit conference of the non-aligned states and a number of resolutions passed at the UN General Assembly, too.

But the imperialists, in disregard of them, are accelerating the building of military bases and reinforcing the armed forces in this region.

This is a clear manifestation of their aggressive ambitions and is a criminal act menacing the security of the countries in the region of the Indian Ocean and world peace.

We condemn such reckless acts of the imperialists and fully support the just demand of these countries to turn the Indian Ocean into a peace zone.

The imperialists must abolish the aggressive military bases in all areas—the Indian Ocean, Asia, Africa and Latin America—and quit there taking all their troops with them.

We will, in the future, too, positively support and encourage all peoples fighting against imperialism and wage an energetic struggle to defend the unity of the non-aligned movement and build a new world without imperialism and colonialism and a new society free from exploitation and oppression, in firm unity with the world people advocating independence.

Your Excellency Esteemed President,

The Korean and Seychellois peoples have established friendly relations out of the common aspirations for independence against imperialism.

The victory of the June Revolution in Seychelles and the establishment of a new government headed by Your Excellency President marked a turning point in the development of the friendly relations between our two peoples.

Soon after its establishment, the new government of Seychelles began to develop the friendly relations with our Republic, recognizing only one Korea and opposing "two Koreas," and actively supported the just struggle of the Government of our Republic and our people to force all foreign troops to withdraw from south Korea and achieve the independent, peaceful reunification of our country.

Our people were greatly touched and inspired by the just measures taken by the Seychellois Government.

I avail myself of this opportunity to express my deep thanks to Your Excellency President, the People's United Party, the Government and people of Seychelles for directing great concern to the development of friendship and cooperation with our country and rendering sincere support and encouragement to the struggle of our people for the independent, peaceful reunification of the country.

It is quite natural that at present the new-emerging countries and the non-aligned states taking the road of anti-imperialism and independence support each other and strengthen solidarity.

Your current visit to our country will be an important event in further cementing the bonds of friendship established between Korea and Seychelles.

During your stay in our country, you will witness our people's struggle to build socialism and bring about the country's independent, peaceful reunification and perceive our people's warm feelings of friendship towards you and the Seychellois people.

We believe that your visit to our country will bear fine fruits.

At this pleasant place where I meet Your Excellency President for the first time and share with you warm friendly feelings as a close friend, I propose a toast:

To the friendship and solidarity between the peoples of Korea and Seychelles,

To the prosperity and development of the Republic of Seychelles,

To the solidarity of the world people advocating independence,

To the health of Your Excellency Esteemed President France Albert Rene and Madam,

To the health of the guests from Seychelles,

To the health of diplomatic envoys of various countries and madams, and

To the health of all comrades and friends present here. (KCNA)

Speech of President FRANCE ALBERT RENE

At Banquet

Comrade President, Your Excellencies, friends.

Words cannot express the happiness which I feel tonight to be with you in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. My delegation and I were deeply touched earlier today by the very warm and enthusiastic welcome which we received at the airport and in your capital both by yourself Comrade President, and by the thousands of smiling Koreans who turned out to greet us. The spontaniety and warmth of your welcome have, in spite of thousands of miles which separate our two countries, made us feel at home.

The people of Seychelles congratulate the Korean people on their great achievements in the socialist reconstruction of their country under your wise leadership following your liberation from imperialist oppression.

Comrade President, my country is one of the smallest sovereign states in the world. The problems which confront us, however, are no less formidable than those which larger countries, such as yours, have to face. In a way we are perhaps fortunate that our long period of struggle against oppressive colonial subjugation is now at an end and we can, therefore, brace ourselves to the task of nation-building. We have already begun to dismantle the class structures imposed during the period of colonial domination and to replace them by new structures based on the principles of democracy, equality and social justice. The task to which we have set ourselves will be long and arduous but it is one to which I and my people are committed.

The Republic of Seychelles is situated in a very strategic area of the Indian Ocean. A substantial proportion of oil supplies are transported in tankers which navigate through our waters every day. In recent years the Indian Ocean has seen a rapid escalation of the military capabilities of the superpowers.

We cannot tolerate that the superpowers should come and wash their dirty linen at our doorstep. We cannot agree to being used as pawns in this irresponsible rivalry between superpowers. Effective measures must be taken to restore the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace without delay before the threat of superpower confrontation becomes a reality.

Our country, Comrade President, pursues a policy of non-alignment. In this respect we share a common aspiration with your people who like us to refuse to be drawn into any camp in this military rivalry. Like you we are active members of the non-aligned movement of nations. Only through the concerted actions of members of the non-aligned movement can we succeed in isolating the superpowers and in the struggle against imperialism.

Relations between the Seychelles and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea have developed satisfactorily since my country became independent in June 1976. With the establishment of the revolutionary government of the people after our liberation on June 5th, 1977 the links which had started to develop were given an added impetus.

The establishment of diplomatic relations between our two countries has since played a significant role in strengthening the ties of friendship between our two peoples. My visit to your country, Comrade President, is the natural culmination of the development of this friendship.

The people of Seychelles have followed with great interest the significant achievements of the Korean people in their endeavour to build a strong, self-reliant socialist nation under your wise leadership, in accordance with the Juche idea which you have enunciated. My people also share your aspiration to achieve reunification of your country which has been artificially divided. We also share the view that this can only be achieved if all foreign occupation and imperialist forces are withdrawn from Korean soil and the Koreans are allowed to decide their own future without any outside interference. We know the agony and unnecessary suffering caused through imposed arbitrary division. We therefore fully support you and your people in your endeavour to achieve the peaceful reunification of your country.

Comrade President, may I now propose a toast:

To the health of Comrade President Kim Il Sung,

To the health of your wife Comrade Kim Song Ae,

To the continued progress and prosperity of the friendly people of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea,

To the friendship and solidarity between our two peoples,

To the health of the heads of diplomatic missions and their wives present, and

To the health of all friends present here this evening.

(KCNA)

Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation Released between DPRK, CAE

PYONGYANG, May 2 (KCNA)—A Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Central African Empire was made public in Pyongyang.

Follows the full text of the treaty:

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Central African Empire,

Determined to consolidate relations of friendship existing between the two countries,

To develop cooperation with the non-aligned countries, countries following the road of independent socio-economic development,

To oppose imperialism, colonialism, racism, dominationism and all forms of aggression and to positively contribute to the cause of safeguarding world peace and security,

Reflecting the will and desire of the peoples of their respective countries,

Decided to sign a treaty of friendship and cooperation and agreed as follows:

ARTICLE 1

The two high level contracting parties shall develop the relations between the two countries on the following principles publicly recognized in the international relations:

1. The people of each country shape their destiny by themselves and have the sacred right to national independence and sovereignty.
2. Each country assumes the obligation to respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of other countries and observe the principles of equality and mutual benefit and non-interference in each other's internal affairs.
3. Each country regards any attempt to oppose the national unity and violate the territorial integrity of other countries as a grave infringement upon world peace and security.
4. Each country has the right to develop and utilize all its resources including natural riches in conformity with its national interests.
5. Each country respects the objectives and principles of the UN Charter and the publicly recognized principles and norms of international law.

ARTICLE 2

The two high level contracting parties shall make efforts to expand and develop in an allround way the relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries in the interests of the peoples struggling for the independent development of their respective countries.

ARTICLE 3

The two high level contracting parties shall strengthen multiform cooperation in the economic, scientific, technical and cultural domains and exchange the successes and experiences gained in these fields.

ARTICLE 4

The two high level contracting parties shall make positive efforts to develop and expand trade between the two countries.

ARTICLE 5

The two high level contracting parties, as member states of the non-aligned movement, shall make joint efforts to strengthen and develop the movement.

ARTICLE 6

The two high level contracting parties shall make positive efforts to destroy the old international economic order and establish a new international order conforming to the will and interests of the developing countries.

ARTICLE 7

The two high level contracting parties shall give each other information and have consultation about the international problems and international events of common concern and support and cooperate with each other at international meetings.

ARTICLE 8

The two high level contracting parties shall actively support the struggle of the people against imperialism old and new colonialism, racism, and dominationism and for defending world peace and security, consolidating national independence and achieving freedom.

ARTICLE 9

The two high level contracting parties shall oppose any attempt of the imperialists to split a country into two and subjugate and dominate the peoples of other countries and make positive efforts for the independent and peaceful settlement of the question of Korean reunification on a democratic principle free from any outside interference.

ARTICLE 10

The present treaty shall come into force on the day of its signing and remain valid for 20 years.

Unless any of the two contracting parties makes a written proposal to the other side to abrogate the treaty six months before its expiration, its term will be automatically renewed for another ten years.

Signed in Pyongyang on May 2, 1978, and done in duplicate in Korean and French, both texts are equally authentic.

KIM IL SUNG, President, Democratic People's Republic of Korea

BOKASSA THE FIRST, Emperor, Central Africa

DPRK-CAE Joint Communique Made Public

PYONGYANG, May 2 (KCNA)—A joint communique of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Central African Empire was made public in Pyongyang.

Follows the full text of the joint communique:

☆ ☆

Upon the invitation of Comrade Kim Il Sung, President of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, His Majesty Bokassa the First, Emperor of Central Africa, paid an official visit to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea between April 28 and May 2, 1978.

During their stay in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea the guests from Central Africa visited Mangyongdae and inspected the central industrial-agricultural exhibition and educational and cultural institutions in Pyongyang.

During the visit talks were held between Comrade Kim Il Sung, President of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and His Majesty Bokassa the First, Emperor of Central Africa.

The talks proceeded in a cordial and friendly atmosphere.

At the talks the two sides informed each other of the situation of their respective countries, discussed the problem of expanding and developing the relations of friendship and cooperation between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Central African Empire and other problems of mutual concern and reached an identity of views in all problems discussed.

The Korean side expressed high admiration for the social and economic successes registered in the Central African Empire through the "Operation Bokassa" under the energetic leadership of His Majesty Bokassa the First and manifested support to the struggle of the Central African people against imperialism, old and new colonialism and racism.

The Central African side highly appreciated the fact that the Korean people under the correct guidance of the great leader Comrade President Kim Il Sung have converted their country in a short span of time into a socialist industrial state with the solid foundation of an independent national economy by embodying the Juche idea and wished them greater successes in the struggle for carrying into practice the grandiose programme of the Second Seven-Year Plan.

The Central African side expressed support to the struggle of the Korean people for forcing all foreign troops to withdraw from south Korea and achieving the reunification of Korea by the Korean people themselves independently and peacefully on a democratic principle free from any interference of outside forces.

The two sides expressed full support and firm solidarity for the just struggle of the peoples of the countries of the new-emerging forces in Asia, Africa and Latin America and the world progressive people against imperialism, old and new colonialism and racism and for sovereignty, independence and the building of a new society.

The two sides noted with satisfaction that the visit of the goodwill mission of the Central African people to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea marked a historic occasion in developing and consolidating the friendly relations between the two peoples.

His Majesty Bokassa the First, Emperor of Central Africa, expressed sincere thanks to Comrade Kim Il Sung, President of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and the entire Korean people for their warm welcome and cordial hospitality, a clear manifestation of the high respect and deep friendship of the Korean people for himself and the Central African people.

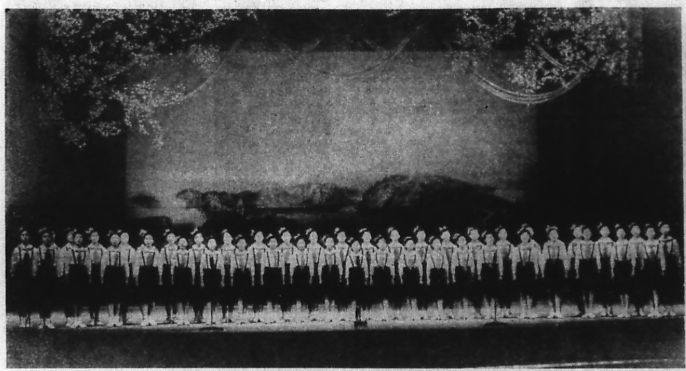
KIM IL SUNG, President, Democratic People's Republic of Korea

BOKASSA THE FIRST, Emperor, Central Africa

Pyongyang, May 2, 1978.

Korean Children Envy Nothing in World

Pyongyang Students and Children Art Troupe Fascinates Tokyoites



The performance started with the resounding chorus of "Song of General Kim Il Sung".

This is the scene of the light music "Cooking Carriage Runs."

The little artists from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, a land of arts, completely fascinated the Tokyo audience for two hours with their cute, well-trained, high -leveled performance.

The Pyongyang Students and Children Art Troupe premiered on May 3 at the Tokyo Bunka Kaikan.

The audience valued highly the dances, songs, and musical instrument playings, saying: "They are so cute."; "They are so trained that the performance was completely successful."; "I can understand from the performance what a wonderful country the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is.", etc.

Following statements are from those expressed by Japanese audience at the two-day performance at the Tokyo Bunka Kaikan.

☆ ☆

Minobe Ryokichi, Governor of Tokyo, had this to say:

I am very glad that the Pyongyang Students and Children Art Troupe has visited Japan. I am sure that the visit was realized entirely thanks to President Kim Il Sung.

First of all, I would like to express my thanks to him and wish him good health and a long life.

Today's performance of the art troupe has been excellent.

Japanese children of 9 to 15 years are busy with preparations for their entrance examinations. However, the Korean children of the same ages are growing up without any worry while studying and displaying their abilities freely.

I have been deeply touched by their pure art showing the development of Korea, which is well known as the country of Juche.

The Korean boys and girls have a power enough to develop their country.

Their performance today assured me of that.

Asukata Ichio, Chairman of the Central Executive Committee of the Japan Socialist Party, had this to say:

I could not but be surprised at the high level of their performance. I render my heartfelt thanks to President Kim Il Sung for sending the pretty girls and boys.

I think that the high level of the art troupe is produced by the thorough embodiment of the Juche idea. There is no doubt that the performance of the art troupe will make a great contribution to the deepening of the friendship and exchange between the Korean and Japanese peoples.

Ema Shoko, a poet, made this statement:

I managed to come to this hall to see today's performance in defiance of my bad condition in health.

Frankly speaking, the Pyongyang Students and Children Art Troupe is excellent.

The first visit to Japan of the art troupe is a very significant event, I think.

The children of the art troupe showed us the validity of the Juche idea of President Kim Il Sung and their happy life of today through their performance.

I had a deep feeling that children can play an important role in carrying on the revolution and construction together with adults, taking part in the activities of art.

I knew that President Kim Il Sung takes good care of children. Seeing the play of the children, I realized once again that the social system of the northern half of the Republic is really for children.

Matsuoka Yoko, a critic, said:

Today's performance has made me feel how important the independence of a nation is, because I know Korea which was under the rule of Japanese imperialism.

The bright faces of the children were very impressive. Although the children in the DPRK learn singing and dancing for extracurricular activities, the corrupted society here in Japan has a bad influence upon the children.

Today's performance proves how the Korean children are blooming their talents in a social system quite different from that of Japan.

Yoshitome Roju, a wirter, remarked:

It is really wonderful. Lilting melodies, throbbing rhythms, orderly actions—all the programs of the performance showed me the happy life of the children of the Republic and the process of their growth.

Their talents are splendid, but the education of the Republic which rears the children so fine is all the more splendid. The healthy and bright expressions on their faces are, I think, a fruition of the education. It is an astonishing fact that there are a lot of such good students in the Republic.

A country which loves art is a country which loves peace—and Korea is the very one. One must learn art from Korea. Therefore, I will surely visit Korea .

The performance gave me a good understanding of the value of liberation and independence. I am sure that such an excellent children's art troupe cannot be organized until a country is liberated and become an independent one.

I wish south Korean people also could see the performance. To this end, too, Korea must be reunified as early as possible.

Ozaki Hirotsugu, a critic, stated:

The two hours of the performance are worth thousands of, tens of thousands of hours. It was so impressive.

The performance of the Korean little artists, able artists of the future, was more wonderful than I expected.

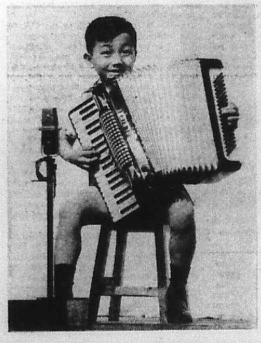
I visited the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in 1956. At that time there still remained scars of the war in the country. That was my last visit to the DPRK, but I could easily imagine the developed Korea through the children's play today.

Yamane Ginji, the representative member of the Japan-Korea Cultural Exchange Association, had this to say:

I have never had such a delightful day in all my life. I will never forget this day, because I could enjoy such a healthy, clean, sound performance today. Truly, it was a performance more wonderful than I had expected.

The children of the art troupe were not only so talented but also showed me through the performance how the Korean children were growing up soundly.

In the DPRK the true arts for children are developing unlike in Japan, where commercialized arts are in flood. The differences in the social systems seem to appear in the field of arts, too.



The accordion solo "Reunification Train Runs" and "Medley of Revolutionary Songs" presented by a 9-year-old boy.

Pyongyang Students & Children Art Troupe

The Pyongyang Students and Children Art Troupe which started on May 3 a 50 odd-day performance tour here in Japan is composed of some 100 much-talented children in Pyongyang.

Like all the children in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Pyongyang children attend various art circles for their extracurricular activities to level up their skill in arts. Especially the children in Pyongyang are guided in the Pyongyang Students and Children's Palace located within the city by members of professional art troupes. The children attend such circles as vocal music, instrumental music, dancing, narration, according to their talents and wishes.

The children in Pyongyang often make their performances at big competiting art meetings held by the state and even at socialist construction sites, giving the workers a great pleasure and encouragement.

They have so far made performances on 2,500 odd occasions before some 3 million people.

They went to Europe and Latin America to entertain a lot of foreigners including the heads of the states and personages of all walks of life of the countries.

In the DPRK they also made performances for 70-odd delegations of head-of-state level and various kinds of 102 delegations—50,000 foreign delegates in all.

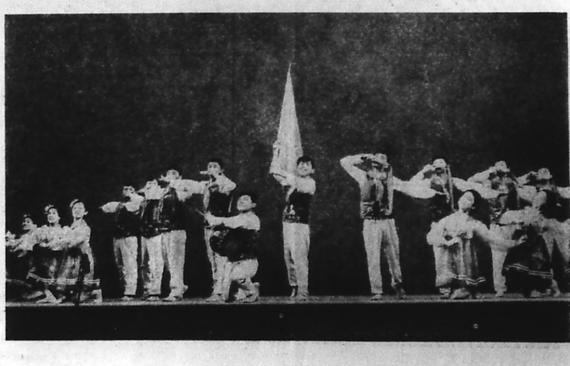
Above: The dance "Changgo and Bell Dance" is a classical one of Korea with "Changgo (national instrument)" and bells. The dance is arranged so as to suit the sentiments of children living in modern Korea.

Right: The Chang-Saenap solo "A Bumper Harvest for Kumgang Village"

Above: The pair dance "Azaleas in Full Bloom As a Bouquet to Our President." This dance shows the children who paid their respect to the President Kim Il Sung by laying before his portrait the azaleas they raised in midwinter.

Right: The dance "Children's Art Troupe." This humorous and happy dance shows the activities of the Children's Art Troupe which was formed as a patriotic children's organization in the 1930s.

Left: The scene of the girl's chorus "We Sing to Accordion" and "The Woods of Young Pioneers." A Japanese song "Sakura (Cherry Blossom)" was sung for the encore.



500 S. Korean Peasants Hold Anti-Pak Meet

About 500 south Korean peasants held a meeting on April 24 in Kwangju, South Cholla Province, against the Pak Jung Hi clique's misrule and harsh extortion.

At the meeting the peasants indignantly denounced the trick of the south Korean "regime" and the "Agricultural Association," a predatory organ under its control, in the "procurement" of sweet potatoes and issued a statement demanding that "the government stop extorting the peasants."

Due to the puppet "government's" misrule plus the influence of the cold front rice and barely farming failed last year in south Korea. And the output of sweet potatoes dropped to 50 per cent of the usual harvest. Through the "Agricultural Association" the Pak Jung Hi clique deceived the peasants with a promise to "buy the whole harvest of sweet potatoes at a high price" and forbade them to sell them at market. But sweet potatoes forcibly collected by the south Korean authorities went bad, bringing a loss to the peasants.

Noting that "this was the first large-scale meeting of peasants criticizing the government," the report said that "the meeting could be regarded "not simply as one called on account of the sweet potato problem but as one which would lead to a conscious movement of peasants."

Meanwhile, on April 29 more than 700 workers of the Chinro Stock Company in Yongdungpo district, Seoul, called a strike for a 40 per cent wage-hike.

They downed tools on the morning of April 29 to push through their demand.

Dissident Poet Demands Pak Step Down

Chang Gi Pyo

The Japanese politico-theoretical journal "Sekai" in its May issue, under the title "Lend an Ear to the Voice of the People," carried a summary of the final statement of Chang Gi Pyo, a south Korean dissident poet, at a trial of his appeal to a higher court on January 22.

He was thrown into jail on charges of violation of the fascist "emergency decrees" and "anti-communist law."

He wrote the critical poem "The Voice of the People" exposing the fascist and anti-popular crimes of the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique.

Chang said in his statement that he had written the poem "The Voice of the People" out of the creed that democracy must be established. To brand it as an "anti-state expression" is based on the judgement of those sticking to an old way of thinking, he said.

He said he has called for "boycott of the political training of the Homeland Defence Reserve Forces, a political group," because "they exist not for national defence, but for reinforcing the foundation of dictatorship."

Uncovering the sinister intention of the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique in urging the students to remain pure, he said:

The government insists that literature, arts, the labour movement and religion must all be pure. This is, in a nutshell, intended to depoliticize everything. In demanding such purity, the authorities seek to stay in power long, ignoring public opinion, and, to this end, smoothen the voice critical of their error of long-term office.

Pointing out that the Pak Jung Hi fascist clique, like the guilty party filling the suit first, are crying that the students and democratic forces resort to violence, he said:

Those in power now have seized it by force from the time of the May 16 Military Coup. This government is a terrorist group. Holding all means of violence in its hand, it tells the people not to use violence. Accursed is the violence for suppressing the people and overdriving and plundering them, and noble is violence if it is for winning freedom and democracy against those oppression, overdriving and plunder. He declared: "the people are not dead, but will be victorious."

"If one raises the problem of the slum quarters and labour, the authorities make it a rule to charge him with profiting the enemy, wielding the anti-communist law. This is for maintaining their power."

Refuting the claim of the puppet clique that the harsh exploitation and oppression of the workers by the employers are all affairs between them and "the government is not responsible" for this, he said:

If it is a government not concerned for the right to existence of the employees holding a more than half of the population, for whom is it intended for? If it has no intention to work for the people, it should step down from power.

Exposing the misdeed of the puppet clique in imposing a penalty on anyone who speaks truth, charging him with distortion, Chang Gi Pyo said:

Under the *yusin* (revitalized) system, only one man runs candidate at the National Conference for Unification and becomes "president" with more than 90 per cent of the votes for him. This is by no means a democratic system, but an institutional one-man dictatorship. If one calls it dictatorship, though it is true, he is accused of distortion. What a queer land.

This is the root cause of falsehood and distrust reigning in this land. The constitution itself being a tool for deceiving the people, this land is replete with distrust.

Noting that "the Pak regime has come to such a pass where it cannot rule the state without proclaiming an emergency state, emergency decrees, etc.," he asked:

Has not the crisis been created, because the government has no support of the people?

He, in conclusion, called for a struggle "in unity to thoroughly awaken the people, making 1978 a year for the complete restoration of democracy."

Writers, Poets Stage Hunger Strike

More than 10 south Korean writers and poets were staged a hunger strike against the fascist suppression by the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique which arrested their colleagues, according to a report of the Seoul correspondent of the Japanese daily "Asahi Shimbun" carried in its May 3 issue.

Novelists Li Ho Chol, Li Mun Gu and Pak Tae Sun, poet Cho Tae Il and critic Paek Rak Chong were among the strikers on May 2.

The hunger strike was touched off when the fascist bandits illegally arrested poet Ko Un and another man Paek Gi Wan at an "Evening of National Culture," a gathering held in Seoul on April 24, said the paper.

Ex-Seoul "Consul" in Toronto Seeks Asylum

Ryang Yong Man, consul of the south Korean puppet consulate in Toronto, Canada, sought asylum abroad recently against the Pak Jung Hi fascist clique.

He had been discontented with the puppet clique. He sought refuge on March 27, taking advantage of his transference to Brazil.

Now the puppets are kicking up a dust, mobilizing all their "diplomats" and agents in Canada to find his whereabouts.

This clearly shows how utterly Pak Jung Hi steeped in treacheries is isolated and rejected in its own ruling quarters, not to speak of broad sections of the south Korean people.

As many as ten puppet diplomats sought refuge in foreign countries against the puppet clique in one year from April last year to March this year.

The paper "New Korea Times" published by Koreans in Canada noted that such flight abroad is a resolute action taken in the belief that the days of the Pak regime are numbered and stressed that this is a purposeful action no force can check.

Rodong Sinmun Flays Tokyo's Effort for "Cross Recognition"

The Japanese government should renounce their hostile policy toward the Democratic People's Republic of Korea; above all, they should desist from committing acts obstructive to Korea's reunification and give up the "two Koreas" policy, Rodong Sinmun (organ of the CC of the Workers' Party of Korea) said on Apr. 29.

It commented on a recent report of the U.S. magazine "Newsweek" alleging that diplomatic representatives of the DPRK and Japan had "contacted" in secrecy to explore possibility of opening diplomatic relations between the two countries.

Declaring that this report of "Newsweek" is a sheer lie totally unfounded, the commentary said:

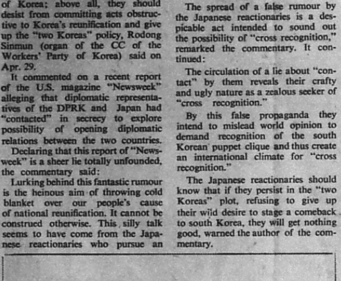
Lurking behind this fantastic rumour is the heinous aim of throwing cold blanket over our people's cause of national reunification. It cannot be construed otherwise. This silly talk seems to have come from the Japanese reactionaries who pursue an unfriendly policy towards our Republic, wanting Korea to remain permanently divided.

The spread of a false rumour by the Japanese reactionaries is a despicable act intended to sound out the possibility of "cross recognition," remarked the commentary. It continued:

The circulation of a lie about "contact" by them reveals their crafty and ugly nature as a zealous seeker of "cross recognition."

By this false propaganda they intend to mislead world opinion to demand recognition of the south Korean puppet clique and thus create an international climate for "cross recognition."

The Japanese reactionaries should know that if they persist in the "two Koreas" plot, refusing to give up their wild desire to stage a comeback to south Korea, they will get nothing good, warned the author of the commentary.



by Chae Jun

Catholic Exposes Seoul's Human Rights Violation

Chi Hak Sun

"Minjok Sibo," a paper published by the anti-Pak south Koreans here carried some time ago a speech made by Chi Hak Sun, Catholic bishop of south Korea, at a "prayer meeting marking the week of human rights" held in Wonju, Kangwong Province, in December last year, under the headline "Let Us Rise to Restore Human Rights."

In his speech Catholic bishop denounced the shameless claim of the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique that "there is no problem of human rights in south Korea."

He recalled that in south Korea where those whom people met yesterday were suddenly arrested or taken to police today and beaten or detained, people came to say when they meet their acquaintances "is everything all right with you?" instead of "how are you?"

He pointed out that people constantly look about to see whether they are shadowed or not and cannot speak over the phone to others freely. He said:

"If it is true that 'there is no problem of human rights in south Korea,' where does this uneasiness we feel come from?

"Are we all suffering from schizophrenia? Or do we have the mentality of a criminal because we are plotting against the state though there is no problem of human rights?

"Specialists in law say that a law which was instituted not through due procedures by representatives of the people is not a law.

"The act of the government which tries to justify the oppression of people by the power, claiming that it is a punishment by law proves that the law is not a law but violence. To recall that people were punished only by law, though for form's sake, even under the Nazi rule of Hitler is enough to prove that it is a lie to claim that there is no problem of human rights in south Korea."

Chi Hak Sun went on:

"Do the government authorities fatefully observe or honestly apply the laws instituted by themselves or arbitrarily imposed upon the people after their enactment at the national assembly which is no more than a tool of the power?"

Noting that the government simply dismissed as a matter unworthy of consideration the crimes committed at the expense of the people by Pak Tong Son, an agent of the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique's Capitol Hill lobbying, the Catholic bishop went on:

"People who are not to the liking of the government are apprehended or indicted by employing a hundred and one means.

"Kim Ji Ha is put on trial on faked-up charges that his unwritten poem sympathizes with the propaganda activities of north Korea.

"These days people are not allowed to criticize the government or express their opinion or view freely.

"Distortion of fact is an oft-used excuse in arresting people on charges of violation of the 'emergency decree.'

"The government can arrest people at will by charging them with distortion of fact in an arbitrary way. For instance, he who said that the south Korean economy is dependent on the Japanese economy was given the verdict of guilty on charges of distortion of fact. He who asserted that there is no freedom of religion in south Korea was also declared guilty."

Chi Hak Sun continued:

"The authorities regard the missionary activities of Christians as pro-communist acts. They claim that the church should be confined to acts within its wall. They say why it should agitate the working people, the poor, oppressed and tormented. They claim that no one but communists should side with the poor and oppressed.

"It is the government that restricts by law the right of the working people to live and eat.

"Labour dispute is forbidden at foreign-invested enterprises. Our young people are forced to be an object of exploitation by foreigners. This is the independence claimed by the government."

In conclusion Chi Hak Sun said:

"We should defend our elementary human rights and human dignity. We cannot restore our human rights by the 'favours' of the government. We should break chains binding us and restore our lost human rights and human dignity."

NOTICE

Write Letters to The People's Korea

You are cordially invited to make comments on the editorial policy, layout and language of The People's Korea.

Any opinion will highly appreciated as a friendly interest in improving our paper.

Write to: The People's Korea,
5 Tsukudo Hachiman-cho, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo 162 Japan

U.S. Intends Reinforcement, Not Pullout

The Carter administration recently modified its original plan to begin withdrawal of U.S. troops from south Korea with the pullout of 6,000 troops this year.

The arguments critical of Carter's original plan are being deliberated in Congress, and the U.S. administration intends to put fresh muscles to the south Korean armed forces by getting the congressional approval of transferring some $800 million worth of military equipment to the south Korean puppet army as partial compensation.

The acting Chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, testifying in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, said on May 1 that the Joint Chiefs have opposed the withdrawal of any U.S. forces from south Korea without congressional approval of a major package of arms aid to the south Korean Pak "regime."

On the other hand, the U.S. administration decided to hand over additional military equipment worth $54,100,000 to the south Korean "regime."

This step which was taken by the U.S. administration as part of its reinforcement of the south Korean armed forces was approved by Congress on April 20.

The equipment will include 6 "CH-47" helicopters and 16 "M-38" tank recovery vehicles.

The U.S. House Armed Services Committee on April 26 passed an "amendment" on keeping 26,000 U.S. ground troops in south Korea. On April 28 Presidential National Security Adviser Brzezinski stated that "in case of a conflict on the Korean Peninsula the U.S. would promptly send a strike task force."

These acts of the U.S. administration prove that though they are loud-mouthing about "troop pullout," they in actuality have no intention to vacate south Korea and their "troop withdrawal" commitment was a crafty ruse to fool public opinion at home and abroad.

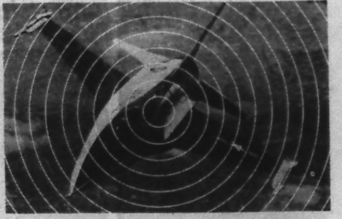


Photo shows F-16 fighter jet Pentagon is expected to transfer to the south Korean puppet air force

Pyongyang Flays Washington's Double-Dealing Tactics

The U.S. administration, for all their loud talk about "troop pullout" and "peace," are, in actuality, hastening arms reinforcement and war preparations, declared Rodong Sinmun (organ of the CC of the Workers' Party of Korea) April 30 in a commentary.

It said:

The U.S. House of Representatives Armed Services Committee recently passed an "amendment bill" for keeping most of the U.S. ground combat forces in south Korea and a report of the investigations subcommittee of the House Armed Services Committee claimed that a "basic American military force should be kept in south Korea until north and south Korea sign a formal peace settlement."

This cannot be construed otherwise than an indication that the U.S. imperialists have no intention at all to put an end to their troops' occupation of south Korea and that they scheme to substitute a pullout of a small number of troops for a total withdrawal and thus throw overboard the "troop pullout plan."

Noting that the U.S. imperialists intend to fix the split of Korea by a powerful military strength and create "two Koreas" and thereby keep hold on south Korea indefinitely as their colony and military base and start a war of aggression against our Republic, the commentary said:

This is an insult and challenge to the desire of the Korean people and the world people demanding the withdrawal of the U.S. troops from south Korea.

It is entirely due to the U.S. imperialist aggression troops' occupation of south Korea and their adventurous military policy that tension persists in Korea and the dark clouds of war are hanging over there.

The statement of the U.S. imperialists, the harrasser of peace, that the American military force would be kept in south Korea until a "peaceful settlement" is signed means that they would leave south Korea indefinitely under the occupation of their troops.

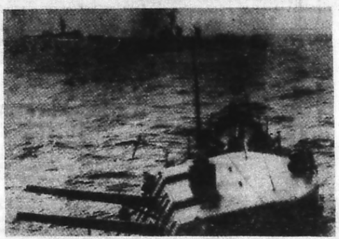
The "troop pullout" much advertised by the U.S. imperialists is nothing but a smokescreen to mislead public opinion at home and abroad and cover up their preparations for the provocation of a new war of aggression in Korea.

The commentary strongly demanded the United States quit south Korea totally, unconditionally and immediately, taking along its troops and weapons of destruction including the nuclear weapons, in accordance with the UN resolution and its own pledges.

"Mil. Exer." Staged On East Sea

The south Korean Pak "regime" staged a war exercise on May 6 and 7 in the vast region of the sea off South Chungchong and North and South Cholla Provinces with the mobilisation of warships.

The criminal military exercise projected by the south Korean authorities at the instigation of the U.S. troops stationed there is a link in their war provocation manoeuvres in which they are getting more persistent of late.



Ships of the south Korean puppet navy and the U.S. 7th Fleet ply the waters off Korea's south coast during the "combined south Korea-U.S. military exercise" codenamed "Team Spirit '78" in March.

People's Daily Comments on Carter's Statement

The Chinese paper "People's Daily" April 30 carried a commentary of a Hsinhua correspondent under the heading "Deceitful U.S. Plan for Troop Withdrawal from South Korea."

Recalling that in his statement on April 21, U.S. President Carter announced that he would "adjust the scheduled withdrawal" of the U.S. ground forces from south Korea, the paper said:

This shows how the U.S. government has failed to keep the promise it made.

The paper went on:

Eventually, the U.S. plan to pull out its troops from south Korea is only a gesture to mitigate the pressure for U.S. troop withdrawal exerted by world public opinion and to be used as a pretext for taking "compensatory measures" which actually means strengthening the military strength in south Korea.

It said that the pullout of one battalion is too insignificant to speak of. The "compensatory measures" taken by the United States under the "troop pullout plan" which still remains unfulfilled will only serve to aggravate tension on the Korean Peninsula, deepen the split and confrontation between the north and south and serve the U.S. plot to create "two Koreas," it noted, and emphasized:

Whatever tricks the United States has resorted to can deceive nobody.

Tass Exposes Fraud of GI Pullout

The Tass News Agency April 24 made public a commentator's article under the headline "What Have the Pledges of Washington Turned Into?"

It laid bare the fraud of the U.S. "plan of troop pullout" from south Korea.

Noting that the United States has, in fact, given up the plan to withdraw its troops from south Korea it had proclaimed, Tass recalled Carter's promise during his election campaign to take U.S. forces out of south Korea.

It said:

Nearly one and a half year have passed since the new administration took office in the United States. But, in this period, not a single U.S. soldier has left south Korea. On the contrary, the U.S. Defence Department is beefing up its air force in south Korea. It was officially announced that several formations of new-type fighter planes would be soon sent to south Korea.

Pointing out that the U.S. military quarters are dead set against the withdrawal of U.S. forces from south Korea, Tass emphasized: It is clear that the continued presence of U.S. forces is liable to hasten the militarization in south Korea and aggravate tension on the Korean Peninsula.

Dissidents Here Denounce Pak's "Election" Farce

The representatives of eight "Mindan"-lining Koreans' organisations including the Japan Headquarters of the "National Congress for the Restoration of Democracy in South Korea and the Promotion of Unification," (Hanmintong), the "Measure Committee for Rescuing Kim Dae Jung," the "Consultative Council for National Unity," and the "Mindan Committee for Defence of Independence" called a news conference in Tokyo on May 2 and issued a statement against the "election of deputies to the 'National Conference for Unification'" scheduled by the south Korean puppet clique for May 18.

The news conference was attended by Japanese figures of various circles including critic Fujishima Udai and many Japanese journalists.

After a speech of Pae Dong Ho, permanent advisor to the Japan Headquarters of "Hanmintong," its vice-chairman Chong Jae Jun made public a statement in joint name of the eight organisations.

The statement roundly exposed the reactionary nature of the "National Conference for Unification" of the puppet clique and pointed out that the "election of deputies" to this dirty tool is a tricky drama for prolonging the one-man dictatorship of traitor Pak Jung Hi.

It said:

The one-man dictatorship of Pak Jung Hi and his treacherous policy have turned south Korea into a living hell for the people and a foreign colony.

The only way to tide over the grave situation is to destroy the *yusin* (revitalized) system and force Pak Jung Hi to step down.

It demanded:

The Pak regime must totally stop the election business and abolish the *yusin* system.

Pak Jung Hi must step down at once, giving up his wild desire for permanent office.

The emergency measures must be repealed, basic rights guaranteed to the people and all the prisoners including Kim Ji Ha released at once.

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